

I feel confident that it was not Jesus they saw; at any rate I shall not believe it till I see the nail prints and place my finger there, and thrust my hand into his side; but still somehow *I wish I had been there!* Yes, my dear brother and sister, may the Holy Spirit so be in you that you may be present at every meeting when it is possible even if you should hear no one but your pastor. Remember that *Jesus is there*, even when there is no "strange" minister present, and if the pastor can not always give you a splendid feast, remember that Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20: 35. Go with the desire to receive a blessing because your first desire is to give your presence to Jesus.

Do so. By and by you will want to hear Him say, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Sunday School Association for the District of Columbus, has just closed its Annual Convention. We were not permitted to attend all of its sessions, but our school was represented by several delegates. It was good to be there. Many prominent speakers were present and we trust that the good things they have told us will tell mightily for good in our Sunday school work for the coming year.

OUR LOVE FEAST.

The Lord willing, we will hold it on Monday evening, Dec. 11. We expect Brother Tombaugh, of Hagerstown, Md., to be with us.

All of like precious faith are invited to attend.

Sister Snader, of New Windsor, Maryland, is visiting her daughter, sister Bertie Engle, of this city. Her presence at the meetings is quite an inspiration, and we only wish she could be with us permanently. She has been a firm supporter of the work from the beginning.

Brother Homer Lemon, one of our most devoted members, was called to the home of his parents, at Laurel Dale, West Virginia, several weeks ago, on account of the sickness of his father who, since then, has been called to his home beyond the river. Our warmest sympathy is tendered all those who mourn his departure, and we trust that Brother Homer will soon be permitted to return to his place in this city where he has many warm friends anxiously awaiting his coming.

Brother G. W. Barnhart, of Hoover, Indiana, sends five dollars to help the mission. Thank you, dear brother, for this offering in the time of need, and for the words of encouragement, and may the Lord abundantly bless you!

We trust that soon there will be a hearty response from "all along the line" that we may be able to meet the demands of the work. Our God is still living! Bless His name! Yes, and He still has some children who are living. "In due season we shall reap, if we faint not." We need, but we need

not faint. Our God is still able to deliver. We are not discouraged.

315 9th St, S. E.

INDIANA

Indiana Mission Work

According to previous arrangements I begun mission work on Oct. 28th, and continued until the 8th of Nov. Visited the following churches, Edna Mills, West Union, North Liberty, Tea Garden and Goshen. Preached eight sermons, two appointments were snowed out, and one was omitted on account of having no place to hold service. We visited 20 different families in our trip.

WHAT WE FOUND.

1. A people whose hearts were made to rejoice because the district was concerned about them and, that they could hope for sympathy and help in their struggle for congregational experience.

2. All these places are without pastors and regular services. All but one without prayer meetings, or Sunday Schools. Two without a place to hold service. Two are using union houses, and one is renting the house of another denomination.

3. All these churches except one, had practically quit work, some because they were not able to support the work financially; others because they lacked a leader, and some because they could not pull together.

4. Happily there was found a disposition to forget the things of the past and to go on toward building up the church. There is nothing existing in any of these congregations which will interfere with their progress. With but two exceptions I found all members ready to re-consecrate themselves anew to the work. All are loyal to the faith and practice of the Brethren. The outlook for accession is good in all these churches.

WHAT IS NEEDED.

1. A good man, who will be pastor in a scriptural sense to place in each one of these congregations. Means to aid at least two of them in supporting the work, and continuing it until they become self supporting.

Several of these congregations by a little aid will soon be able to build houses of worship, and their continuity depends upon having a house. People who are permanent residents of a certain locality do not wish to unite with a church which seems uncertain in its residence. One of these churches have already paid for a lot which is as fine a site for a church house as can be found in the town. A reasonable amount of financial help and continued encouragement from the district and in a short time at least three of these churches will become self supporting.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DISTRICT WORK.

The first duty of any district is to see that its weak churches are cared for, and that when once the standard of the church is set up it is kept up until victory or honorable defeat is gained. Every congregation should be brought to a self supporting condition as soon as possible. The more self-supporting churches there are in the district, the larger will be the income for general mission work.

It occurs to me that the very best way to help our National Mission work is to increase the number of churches in our districts. A man wishing to raise one thousand bushels of corn, may with prosperity increase the yield per acre. But if he can not raise the amount in that way he must purchase more acres. It is very probably that we can increase the amount of mission money now raised by the church. It is quite proper that we should raise more funds than we do. But we need a larger field in order to produce the amount which will be required for future work. With but few exceptions mission work can be carried on with less expense and the results are quicker attained in the smaller towns and cities than in the larger cities, hence the necessity of giving more attention and putting forth greater effort in our several districts.

There is also another consideration, viz, a number of weak congregations without services, and without any oversight, is a sign of weakness in the general organization, a lack of system in mission work. In fact it advertises a people with more zeal than knowledge who attempt to build without counting the cost. You say this advertisement does not read well. True, brethren but there is only one way to cease that kind of advertising and that is to take down the sign. The Mission Board of Indiana is willing to take it down. I am ready to do what I can. We expect, brethren after the first Sunday of December to find out how desirous you are to take down this sign. I am confident that you will say by a liberal contribution to the State Mission Board. *Take down the sign.* Brethren in all earnestness our day of conquest has come, the battle is here. We must fight. The next two years must put us on solid footing, assured of continual success. We must shut the mouths of our advertisers. All this can be done and glorious victory gained in but one way, and that is by a united effort of all the churches in the district. L. W. DITCH.

Ind. Mission Notes

We are receiving promises of help all along the line, yet a few have not responded to our call for a Thanksgiving offering. Brother Ditch has taken the work and help us to stand by him by lending your aid. The following responses have come in from pastors who will help to carry out our plans, W. W. Summers, pastor of Latag, Dawson, College Corner and Poplar Grove. B. N. Flora, pastor of Nappanee and North Manchester. I hope to hear from others ere this week goes by. Remember our day for state mission offerings. See plan in previous number of B. E. I desire to insist upon each church of the state the value of being in line on state work. So let us swell our Thanksgiving offerings and bring them together and see what we can do Sunday, Dec. 3rd. Bear in mind that it means strength to the church of the state, some development, by you lending your aid in a financial way.

So stated some time previous I will state